WASHINGTON.

ORGANIZATION OF THE HOUSE. WHAT CLERK ADAMS SAYS ABOUT THE ROLL AND THE MAJORITY-THE SIZE OF THE LATTER OF LITTLE CONSEQUENCE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] WASHINGTON, March 19 .- The probability of an extra session of Congress will awaken renewed interest in the question of the organization of the House of Representatives. Many reports are affoat as to the purpose on the part of Clerk Adams in so making up the roll as to secure for the Democrats a larger majority than they are fairly entitled to. In reference to statements as to this fact, Mr. Adams

"I have not had any disposition to make a mystery about the organization of the new House, and I am frequently amused at the various reports as to what I have said on the subject. The truth is I have never pretended at any time to make to any one a statement of what the majority would be. I have no rell made up which I am hiding away in some seeret place and refusing to show to people. Up to this time I have not had in my possession officially the facts necessary for making up the roll. Some time ago Edward McPherson and I sat down and informally went over the districts. We agreed and he himself stated afterward in public that the Democrats could not have a majority of less than 3, even if the Republicans got all the districts about which there was any question. This was a mere interchange of individual opinion at a time when there were nearly 50 certificates yet to come in. It was based upon facts which any one familiar with the result of the election could have obtained as well as we. Since that time I have seen nothing to change the judgment then arrived at. Some of the certificates are not in yet. A few are in the courts in litigation, and it is not settled which candidate in such cases has the prima facie evidence to entitle him to be put upon the roll. In Florida, Louisiana, and South Carolina there are dual certificates. In these last cases I have not even considered the subject as to what my duty will be. All the stories about my putting names on or leaving them off the roll arbitrarily are ridiculous. My powers are clearly defined by law, and wherever there is a legal certificate I am compelled to put the holder of it on the roll." Mr. Adams said further that the reports that he is party to a combination to make Mr. Foster Speaker and himself Clerk are equally untrue and absurd. He was willing to say what he believes Democratic majority will be in case all the unsettled cases, where certificates have not been issued, should be decided in favor of the candidates of that party. Neither was he willing to say what his action would be in reference to the South Carolina and Louisiana certificates if the contest in those States should be settled by executive action previous to the meeting of Congress. Mr. Adams appeared to be quite confident that the Democrats would organize the next House, and had no views to express as to the chance of the several candidates for the Speakership.

It may be remarked on the subject of the organization that the opinion in influential Republican circles is, that it will not be a matter of any importance whether the nominal Democratic majority upon the roll is three or a dozen. If any break in that majority occurs, it is believed that it will be sufficiently formidable to embrace votes enough to hold the balance of power between the two parties, and to effect the organization should it com-bine with the Republicans.

CHAMBERLAIN UKGENT.

PRESH REPRESENTATIONS TO THE PRUSIDENT BY BOTH PARTIES-BOTH NOW CONFIDENT. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, March 19.-A delegation representing the Chamberlain Government in South Carolina called upon the President to-day and talked to him for an bour and a half. It was composed of Senator Patierson, Senator-elect Corbin, Collector Worthington, Mayor Cunningham, and Sheriff Bowen of Charleston, Gen. Winsmith, Col. Lowe, and Mr. Waterman. The principal spokesman was Collector Worthington, who argued that Gov. Chamberlain was legally elected, and insisted that his recognition by the President is essential to the continued existence of the Republican quently interrupted by the President to ask questions as to the facts concerning the Legislature and judicial proceedings growing out of the contest. After its conclusion the delegation filed a written statement containing the history of the question in detail from a Republican point of view. The President appeared greatly interested in the subject, but gave the delegation no assurance of what his course ould be. At the close of the interview he said that he would give the matter a full investigation. On this slight encouragement the delegation came away with glowing anticipations of the speedy recognition of Gov. Chamberlain.

The Hampton party, represented principally by Gen. M. C. Butler, Judge Mackey, and ex-Gov. Scott, who watch every movement of their opponents, are confident that the only action the President will take will be to order the troops to cease guarding the State House and withdraw to their barracks. They insist that if this was done a solution of the whole imbroglio will be reached by judicial processes. Gov. Chamberlam's friends say that if the protection of the military should be removed he will continue to occupy the Executive office until elected by force. No idea appears to be entertained by them, however, that he can maintain himself. He has not taken any steps to organize a force to defend his claims to the office and enforce his authority. His whole reliance is upon the National Government. The Chamberlain delegation did not inform the President that they apprehended violence in case the troops ceased to interfere in the affairs of the State; but the evil consequences which they dwell upon at length were all comprised in the disorganization and speedy extinction of the Republican party. They assured the President that not a single precinct or county convention could hereafter be held in South Carolina if Hampton was recognized as Governor. They were at a great deal of pains to assure the President that it was all a matter of principle with them and not of office, a statement that appears rather absurd in view of the fact that a majority of the delegation are officeholders, and of the further fact that there are scarcely a score of prominent white Republicans in the State who are not holding Federal or State offices, or in some way getting a hving out of poli-

Both the contending parties are unfortunate in the representatives who are sent to plead their causes before the President. Several of Gov. Chamberlain's supporters belong to the class who brought odium upon the Republican party in South Carolina by their participation or acquiescence in the wholesale plundering which followed reconstruction. On Wade Hampton's side is Gen. M. C. Butler, who commanded the white mob which perpetrated the atrocious Hamburg massacre last Summer. There is also ex-Gov. Scott, a carpet-bagger whose administration was distinguished only for the corruption which pervaded all branches of the State Govern-

It is believed that the South Carolina question will be taken up in Cabinet meeting to-morrow or Friday. The difficulty in the way of obtaining a decision by State judicial authority lies in the fact that the Supreme Court is evenly divided. The Chief Justice is dead, and one of the Associate Justices is for Hampton and the other for Chamberlain. If the two Legislatures could be induced to unite, the vacancy on the bench could be filled and a tribunal established which would be recognized by both parties as competent to decide the quarrel. of his position. He has appointed L. P. Williams, for

This method of settlement may yet be found feasible. It would relieve the President of the necessity of deciding whether Chamberlain or Hampton is

UNCONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS. THE APPOINTERS NOT DEBARRED FROM SERVING-THE LAW OF THE MATTER.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] WASHINGTON, March 19 .- The failure of the enate to confirm several appointments made by the President during the special session, does not necessarily prevent the persons receiving those appointments from assuming the duties of the offices for which they were designated, provided the President desires them to do so. The tenure of office act assed in 1867 provides that, "During any recess of the Senate the President is authorized in his discretion to suspend any civil officer appointed by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, except judges of the courts of the United States, until the end of the next session of the Senate and to designate some suitable person subject to be removed in his discretion by the designation of another to perform the duties of such suspended officer in the mean time. The President shall, within 30 days after the commencement of each session of the Senate, except for any office which, in his opinion, ought not to be filled, nominate persons to fill all vacancies in office which exist at the meeting of the Senate, whether temporarily filled or not, and also in the place of all officers suspended; and if the Senate, during such session, shall refuse to advise and consent to an appointment in the place of any suspended officer, then, and not otherwise, the President shall nominate another person as soon as practicable to the same session of the Senate for the office." All postmasters, United States marshals, and other bonded officers are held responsible for all United States property in their possession and for the proper discharge of the duties of their office until their successors are qualified. In the cases in which the Senate failed to act upon the nominations at its late session the old officers continue to perform their duties just as though their terms had not expired and the President had nominated no persons in their places. It is therefore in his power, under the Tenure of Office act, to make new appointments in his discretion, and, as the Senate refused to confirm no one, he may appoint the same persons whose names he sent to the Senate and which were laid aside without action. The most important of these cases were those of Mr. Potts, nominated to be Postmaster at Petersburg, Va., and Mr. Waldron to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Tennessec. Both of these nominations went over on account of an objection by a Senator, which was undoubtedly made because the candidates were Democrats. This does not, however, prevent the President from immediately appointing and com-

IN THE DEPARTMENTS.

MR, MARSHALL'S NEW DUTIES-SOUTHERN POST-OFFICES - APPLICATIONS TO MR. DOUGLASS PROF, LANGSTON.

missioning them, and if he does so they may exer-

cise the duties of the offices until the close of the

next session of the Senate, or until their successors

[GENERAL PRESS DISPATCIL] Washington, March 19 .- First Assistant Postmaster-General Typer was to have taken charge of his office to day, but his commission did not arrive at the Department until late this afternoon, and he deferred the ssumption of his new duties until to-morrow. Mr. J. W. Marshall, the present incumbent of that office, has been ppointed a superintendent of the railway mail service. with headquarters in Washington. The duties of that position will be much more congenial to Mr. Marshall, and the compensation considerably larger. His salary as a superintendent of the railway mail service his salary is \$2,500, with \$5 per diem, which makes his total co pensation \$4,325. The appointment of Mr. Marshall does not affect Mr. Vail, superintendent of the railway service, since the law provides for two superintendents. although for some months past there has been only one Merrimon, asking for information in relation to the distribution of patronage in the South, says:

tribution of patronage in the South, says:

I will endeavor to explain the situation as clearly and briefly as possible. When a vacance exists in any office connected with this department in the Southern States, inceference will be given to a Republican all other thines being equal. But should it be impossible to thad a Republican who will be satisfactory to a large majority of the people whose business is directly affected by the appointment, or in case of a contest for the office, then I shall not hesitate to step aside and select a person who, in my judgment, will give satisfaction to the business interests of the community. While I shad always be glad to receive the advice of Senators and Representatives in Congress touching matters of this kind, yet I shall not consider myself as himmy way bound to act upon it. My cesire is to do the greatest good to the greatest number, and to this end I shall always be glad to inveyour conperation. I very much regret that I did not see you, and shail be glad to do so at any time.

This afternoon Frederick Douglass qualified as United

This afternoon Frederick Douglass qualified as United States Marshal for the District of Columbia, and took charge of the office. A large number of applicants for office under the new marshal were in attendance before he qualified; but Mr. Douglass promptly intimated that he was not in favor of removing any good men from their present positions, and would make no changes without reful consideration. The vacancy caused by the resign nation of Col. Phillips, who for 25 years has been chief deputy marshal, was to-day filled by the appointment of L. P. Williams, who for many years has been assistant clerk of the Supreme Court of the District. This selection generally regarded with very great approbation by the bar and the public at large, and by it Mr. Douglas has disarmed the principal if not the only objection has disarmed the principal if not the only objection urged against his appointment, namely, that the business duties of the effice were not likely to be performed satisfactorily under his management. Ex-Marshal Sharp, after turning over his office to Mr. Doughass, quantied as major and paymaster in the United States Army, and will be morrow enter upon his duties as depot paymaster in this city.

The report that Prof. Langston is to be appointed Commissioner of Agriculture has called forth consideration.

The report that Fro. Langston is to be appointed on insistence of Agriculture has called forth considerable opposition. Farmers in various parts of the country are sending in protests, Senator Moriton said to-day he did not think Prof. Langston would receive the appoint-

ment.

Secretary Sherman said to-day he should make no official changes in his department until after the 1st of next month. A number of commissions in the customs and internal revenue departments expire soon. In filling the vacameles thus caused careful inquiry will be made into the character and ability of all candidates.

CURRENT TOPICS AT THE CAPITAL. IMPORTS FROM GREAT BRITAIN.

WASHINGTON, Monday, March 19, 1877. The following statement, showing the exert of the principal articles of British and Irish produce and manufactures from the United Kingdom to the United States during the two months ended Feb. 28, 1877, compared with the corresponding period of 1876,

has been furnished by the chief of	f the Bures	iu of Statis-
tles:		
tico.	an, and Feb. J	an, and Feb.
	1576.	1877.
Commodities.	132,705	135,317
Alkali, cwl	9.849	9,110
Apparel and slops, £	23,314	14,050
		128
Copper, wronght, cwt		12,902,300
Cotton piece goods, yards.	88,877	70,987
Lucthen and china ware, A	1. X25000000000	58,165
Haberdashery, &	72,164	49,253
Hardware and cuttery, 2	5.078	7,351
Iron-Pig, tons		431
		460
Transferrence militaries Establish	5. 5.E7W.	490
Homes sheets and boller pites, tous,	55.85	14,577
True winters. Louist		363
Cast or wrought, tous,	2.40	150
Old, for remanufacture, tons	4.201	698
Steel unwrought, long	1,132	237
food our rolled sheet, &C., long,		20,075,500
finen niece goods, vards	29,603,800	19,652
	46,834	1.644
Paper-writing or printing, L	1,821	2,474
Dance other kinds, &	1,000	
Buft cock and white, &	29,7100	25,279
Silks and satin, broadstuffs, £	37,000,00	14.872
This believes at the contract of	L 475549	1.530
Other articles of silk only, £	14,403	11,537
Articles of silk, and other materi-		2/2/2011
als. £	27, 171747	5,718
Spirite. 2	2,000	2,317
Stationery, and other paper, &	11,618	12,826
Tin, unwrought, 2	10,276	13.000
Wool, sheep and lambs', Ib	23,500	134,700
Woolen cloths, coating, &c., £	16 ,336	111.553
Worsted stuffs, all wool, £	416,458	270,683
Worsted Attilia, all Wood, Williams	80 016	96 409

FREDERICK DOUGLASS QUALIFIES. Frederick Douglass, the new United States Marshal for the District of Columbia, filed his bond, signed by Columbus Alexander and George Hill, jr., this morning, took the oath of office, and assumed the duties

many years employed in the office of the Clerk of the Court, as his deputy. The selection seems to be regarded generally as an exceedingly good one with members of the bar and others who have had business at the clerk's office. Mr. Williams, by his politeness and the efficient performance of his duties, has become a general favorite. He served in the army during the late war as a member He served in the army during face late war so for an Indiana regiment and settled in the District in 1865, since which time he has continually resided here. One of the first acts of the new Marshal on taking possession of his office was to inquire if the balliffs were under bonds. On being informed that they were, he replied that they should be, and requested his deputy to look into the matter this afternoon.

THE CONSPIRACY AGAINST CONANT. Assistant Secretary Conant, referring to the outrageous accusations against him, which have been printed within the last day or two, simply says that they are perjuries, for which he intends to hold the authors responsible in the courts of the district. Mr. Conant's connection with the bond interest operations will be made to the Secretary to-morrow. Although its character has not been disclosed, it is believed that it entirely exonerates the Assistant Secretary and all other prominent officials in the Treasury Department. There seems to be no longer any doubt that the whole movement is the result of a consolracy to get Mr. Comant and other valuable officers out of the Treasury Department, and it now seems probable that it will utterly fail.

THE VACANCY ON THE BENCH. The President told some Wisconsin gentlemen who called upon him to-day in behalf of Senator Howe, who is a candidate for the vacant place on the Supreme Court bench, that he should not fill that vacancy at present. He said that his time is too much occupied in consideration of great national matters to enable him to give that thought to the subject which will be necessary in the selection of a Justice of the Supreme Court and to examine carefully the qualifications of the respectives candidates. One thing he could say, and respectives candidates. One tang he could say, and that was that the residence of the successful candidate would be an important element in the decision. Schator Howe's friends then suggested that he comes from the same geographical division with ex-Justice Davis.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

Washington, Monday, March 19, 1977. The Alterney-General, to whom was referred the question of the authority of the Secretary of War to make expenditures on account of the maintenance of the army in the absence of a specific appropriation, has completed In the absence of a specific appropriation, as comparison in submit his report to the President to-morrow. The precise nature of the report has not been ascertained, though it is maintained at it fully sustains the view taken by the Scerefary of War and Gen. Sherman, to the effect that there is no authority nuder which they can expend money for the pay of the army, and that there exists a doubt as to the power to expend money for subsistence except to a limited extent.

The Post-Office Department gives notice that special mails will be dispatched as follows: The vessels satting in each instance from New-York, for Jamaica and Hayti, by the stemmer Claribel, on the 23d inst.; for Venezuela direct, by the bark Jane Adaline, on the 21st., and the schooner Marshall Reynolds on the 24th last.; for the Bahawa Islands, by the steamer Gen. Barnes, on the 21st inst.

In the case of Mary E. Oliver against ex-Senator Simon Cameron for breach of promise, in which \$50,000 damages are claimed, the defendant has filed his plea as follows: "And now comes the defendant, and for plea to the declaration filed against him in the above calified case, says that he never promised as alleged."

A MURDER TRIAL.

STEPHEN COOPER ARRAIGNED FOR SHOOTING HIS OWN SON-THE KILLING ADMITTED, BUT THE PLEA OF SELF-DEFENSE INTERPOSED-THE PRIS-ONER'S STORY.

FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE. POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., March 19 .- The trial of stephen Cooper for the murder of his son was begun in the Circuit Court in this city this morning, Justice Joseph F. Barnard presiding. On the bench also were Associate Justices Case and Winaus. The details of the erime have already been published. After the jury was sworn in, the opening address for the people was made by District-Attorney Wm. R. Woodin, and at its close the court took a recess until 2 p. m.

After the recess several witnesses were called who did ot answer to their names.

Henry White festified to knowing the prisoner; witiess lived not more than a quarter of a mile from aim in Dover; the first he knew of the son being shot was when the prisoner came down the road and said to him, "I and I'm going down to give myself up;" witness said, "You hadn't ought to have shot him, had you!" prisoner replied, "My life is as sweet as any one's," and passed on; witness went up to the spot where the lay; the son said, putting his hand on his stomach, "Die now;" witness said "Maybe not;" the son again said,
"Yes, die now;" the wound seemed to be in the left groin, and the blood was running down the path; the boy died in about a half an hour; before he died by the mother and witness, and the boy maked to see his father; the mother told the father, "He is dying, and wants to see you;" the father replied, "Let him die; I wish he was dead now;" the boy hada't a sound mind, but on common subjects he knew what he was talking about; ten days before the occurrence witness was with the prisoner, and the son overtook them; afterward the same day witness heard prisoner say to his wife, "If he comes back to the house again I will shoot him;" that day the prisoner and his son had a quarrel, and the young Cooper hit his father, making his lip bleed; witness referred to another time when the two ad trouble, and the old man's eyes were blackened by his son; heard of the time the son whipped his grandfather and was sent to the Penitentiary; never knew of the prisoner fighting; never was called ugly; the day the son overtook witness and his father the father told the son to go back or he would boot him; "Boot, eh?" said the boy, when he and the old man said to witness, " Hen, give me a knife; I will rip him;" the boy replied, "Rip, ch!" and he, too, reached for a the boy replied, "Rip, eh!" and he, too, reached for a knife; witness had heard the boy threaten to strike his mother—knock her down; saw him one ony with a cane in his hand—two years ago; said he would hammer his father; the cane was hard wood, four feet long; the father scened to be always afraid of the son.

The first witness called for the defense was the prisoner, Stephen Cooper. He testified; Am 62 years of age; reside at Dover, and have lived there since I was 9 years old; this boy was 23 years old last June; he lived at his grandfather's, a mile off; two years ago last Spring I went before Squire Tompkins, and complained against lum for pitching into me with a cane; the boy was well built, and stronger than I; after the irial before the lustice, the bay was about to be committed to juil when witness agreed that if the boy would swear before Tompkins he would hereafter keep away from me, he would let him

hint, and stronger tann I; after the train before the list tee, the boy was well built, and stronger tann I; after the train before the list tee, the boy was about to be committed to fail when with the boy was a should be considered the part of the keys and the tee of the control of the keys and the tee of the keys and the tee of the keys and the send had trouble with him while chopping wood in the woods had to do the risk life, without a stand of the rease when the son had attacked him; he see med to have an air highly against him after he came ongot to have an air highly against him after he came ongot to have an air highly against him after he came ongot to have an air highly against him after he came ongot to have an air highly against him after he came ongot to have an air highly had before he was shot he stringed with the son and the son had attacked him; he see med to have an air highly had before he was shot he strong the part of the son had also struck his wife and mother; the latter is 85 years of acceptance of the son had to do the him of the son had to do the terms provided him out of doors; the Sunday before he was shot he knock his pape out of his mouth; then he hit her and broke her hose, and others were to be and made to go the part of the son had the collection of an apple tree when the hoy approached; witness hid him to go away; the boy resided that he would stamp his live out; witness went in the bloss, and the wood had the collection of an apple tree when the hoy approached; witness hid him to go away; the boy resided that he would stamp his live out; the son her the part of the son her his hid him to go away; the boy resided that he would stamp his live out; witness went in the bloss, and the wood had to the cellar and bretty on the part of th

ALBANY.

EVENING SESSION OF THE LEGISLATURE. FRUITLESS DEBATE ON THE SUPPLY BILL-PROTEC-TION OF EMPLOYEES-A CHECK TO FRAUDS IN THE SALE OF FERTILIZERS-PROTECTION OF IM-MIGRANTS.

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] ALBANY, March 19 .- The Assembly upon reassembling to-night continued its examination of the Supply bill. A few unimportant sections only were ex-Spinola, who resisted the passage of several petty appropriations. Out of all patience with this waste of time, before adjourning, the Republicans of the Assembly, despite a desperate resistance of the Democrats, passed a resolution limiting speeches in committee of the whole on bills in special orders to five minutes. A resolution was passed a week ago putting down the same limits while in committee of the whole under general orders, so that the erators of the Assembly in future will be less likely to delay work. Mr. Langbein introduced a bill-entitled "An act for the further protection of male employes in the City of New-York." It provides that no property now exempt by law shall be ex-mpt from levy or sale under an execution issued upon a judgment obtained in any court in New-York for services done by any male employé, when such amount does not exceed the sum of \$30, exclusive of costs. If the judgment is returned unsatisfied the employer is to be liable to arrest and imprisonment in the debtors' prison for ten days. In order to prevent fraud in the sale of commercial fertilizers, Mr. Alvord presented a bill making it unlawful to sell any fertilizer unless the bag containing it shall be marked with the name of the manufacturer, the place of manufacture, and the percentages of soluble phosphoric acid, insoluble phosphoric acid, potash, soluble nitrogen or the equivalent, ammonia, and insoluble nitrogen or the equivalent ammonia, which such fertilizer contains. Mr. Ruggles introduced a bill providing that when it shall appear to a court that a suit for libel has been brought for malicious purposes, upon the application of the defendant, it may grant an order staying all proceedings on the part of plaintiff, until the plaintiff files security for the payment of the costs and disbursements that may be incurred by the defendant.

Mr. Tighe presented a bill in the Assembly regulating the quality and supply of gas throughout the State. It requires companies to furnish gas which, through a burner consuming five cubic feet per hour, shall have if luminating power equal to 16 sperm candles, each con-suming 132 grains per hour, the light of 3,200 such standard candles burning one hour to be considered 1,000 cubic feet of gas. In case the gas is not of the quality liable to a penalty of \$100, to be given to the informer Meters are each required to bear a mark indicating its caracity and the date of its test. No deposit shall be demanded from consumers of over shall be demanded from consumers of over \$5 in advance for the first week, and after that the price of gas for the first week shall be the sum authorized to be collected in advance and interest at the rate of 7 per cent per annum on all deposits. The Board of Aldermen and Trustees of villages are given power to grant licenses to establish gas works, try pipes, &c. In cittes of over 100,000 inhabitants the price shall be at the maximum rate of \$2 per 1,000 cubic feet. In cittes of between 40,000 and 100,000 inhabitants the price shall be \$2.25, and in cities and villages of from 5,000 to 10,000 inhabitants the price shall be \$2.25.

be \$3.

In the Senate, Mr. Gerard's bill to protect immigrants from being poisoned by the mislaying of ciemicals used in immigraing ships was passed to a third reading. The bill makes it the duty of the Heulth Officer or his assistants, under a penalty for neglect, to carefully remove from a vessel all of the poisonous liquids used in numication. Senator Tobey's bill providing that a fire ermartne insurance company, by a vote of two thirds of its board of directors, and upon a written notice to all the stockholders, and with the written consent of a majority in amount of its stockholders, a sy reduce the number of its directors to not less than 13, was passed to a third reading.

number of its directors to not less than 13, was passed to a taird reading.

Mr. Wagstaff introduced a bill in relation to the improvement of the Croton aquesiner in the City of New-York. Hempowers the Costroller of that city to issue ionus (not to exceed in amount \$70,000) to pay for the hands and materials which have been purchased by the Department of Public Works for the improvement of the Croton aquesiner. Mr. Vedder introduced a bill to amend the law in righting to criminal cases, providing that in criminal trials and examinations before trial a husband or wife may be examined as a witness in behalf of against the other; but upon no trial or examination shall a limband or wife be compelled to testify against the other.

other.

A message was received from the Assembly stating that it had disagreed to the Senate amendments to the Appropriation bill, and asking for a committee of conference. Messas: Harris, Moore, and Hammond were appointed such committee.

INSURANCE INVESTIGATIONS.

OFFICERS OF LIFE COMPANIES TO BE EXAMINED CONCERNING SALARIES, PERQUISITES, &C .- RE-

is reported here that many of the officers of the life insurance companies have been suddenly called away from home on business requiring their absence until after the adjournment of the Legislature Some of the counsel and friends of the companies begin to assemble, and the investigation at this time has more the look of a meager controversy than a free and oper exposure of the facts sought after by the resolution of the House. Among the officers summoned are those of the Equitable Life, Mutual Life, New-York Life, Metropolitan Life, and Globe Life. Some of these have signified their willingness to attend, while others have refused and have sent counsel to represent them. Others again have sent written reports of the salaries received by them, but omitted the particulars of other allowances taken by tehm. Once the investigation is begun it is the purpose of the Insurance Committee of the House to dive down of the Insurance Committee of the House to dive down deeply into the practices of the respective companies. It is ascertained to be a fact that no report is on file in the Insurance Department of the particulars of the late investigation of the North America Life Insurance Company, for which a teceiver was appointed last week. An application to-day by a member of the House to the Insurance Department developed this strange fact. It is claimed that the whole proceeding of making the investigation was illegal and void, because of the neglect to notify the policy-holders. The Superintendent of the Insurance Department says the risks of the North America will be reinsured in the company offering the most favorable terms, providing it is sound.

Ex-S-nator Pierson, receiver of the North America, is

terms, providing it is sound.

Ev-Senator Pierson, receiver of the North America, is now in New-York making an investigation into its condition with a view to securing its reinsurance.

Assemblyman Fish is studiously investigating all the facts in relation to the practice of amalgamated life insurance companies, and will undoubtedly be heard from on the floor of the House, probably on Wednesday next.

liable to be defeated, as all other parties are who are engaged in litigation. They were under no obligation to accept the appointments nor to hold the offices for a day. They might have resigned at any time. They chose voluntarily to accept the offices; to take the risk of litigation in which their choice involved them. It is too much for them now to ask that they shall be relieved from the risk they took, and that the city shall be relieved from the risk they took, and that the city shall be relieved from the risk they took, and that the city shall be relieved from the risk they took, and that the city shall be relieved from the risk they took, and that the city shall be relieved from the risk of the risk they took, and that the city shall be readed as an insurer of their success. It would be contrary to established principles of law and against public policy. It would invuish a bad precedent and encourage us arpation of office and fature litigation. There are other previsions of the Constitution which seem to be infringed in spirit if not in letter by this bill. Section 9, Article I., is as follows: "The assent of two-thirds of the members elected to each branch of the Legislature shall be requisite to every bill appropriating the public moneys elected to each branch of the Legislature shall be requisited to every bill appropriating the public moneys as passed by a majority and not by two-thirds of the members in each house. It is said in answer to this objection that the term "public moneys "should be construed to mean moneys in the State treasury. Section 24 of Article III. is: "The term should be thus limited, and certainly no reason can be given for holding that the moneys in the city treasury are not in every respect as much public moneys, as those in the State treasury. Section 24 of Article III. is: "The Legislature shall not, nor shall the Common Council of any city, nor any Board of Supervisions of the bill inder consideration, but it does illustrate the sport of the fundamental law and the sedulous

Mr. Alvord said that owing to the absence of the gentleman having the bill in charge, and also that of the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, he would move to lay the message on the table for the present. Agreed to.

GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS.

A PAPAL REMONSTRANCE PREPARED.

LONDON, Monday, March 19, 1877. A special dispatch from Rome to The Times says it is stated that the Pope has dictated personally a note which the Nuncios will present to the various Governments, representing the condition to which His Holiness will be reduced if the Clerical Abuses bill is

THE TRANSATLANTIC MAILS. LONDON, Monday, March 19, 1877.

On and after the 29th inst. the Inman line of steamers will carry the British mails for New-York. From that date their vessels will be dispatched from Liverpool on Thursday and Queenstown on Friday.

THE TRANSVAAL REPUBLIC. LONDON, Monday, March 19, 1877.

The latest advices from Cape Town announce that the Veiksmad of the Transvaal Republic have ap-proved the terms of peace with the Chief Secoccani. President Burgers, in his speech opening the session of the Volk-rand, advocated union with Great Britain.

THE UNIVERSITY BOAT RACE. LONDON, Monday, March 19, 1877. Betting on the Univer-ity boat race is six to four and seven to four in favor of Oxford to-day.

BRITISH FARMING PROSPECTS. LONDON, Monday, March 19, 1877. To-day's Magnet says: "Agricultural prospeets remain about the same. The wheat plant on the whole looks well, especially on high lands. The weather for Spring sowing is favorable, and there is every chance of these operations being conducted under auspices as fair as those of the Autumn."

THE FRENCH AMNESTY MOVEMENT. VERSAILLES, Monday, March 19, 1877. The Extreme Left have resolved to again in-

troduce a motion for amnesty for the Communists.

THE FRENCH PRESS ON THE PRESIDENCY. The French papers received by the last mail comment generally on the result of the Presidential election in the United States. La Patrie makes the subject the text for a long complaint that the United States does not have a system of free trade, and says: "The elec-tion of Tilden would have been the signal for that liberal and distinguished reform; if Mr. Hayes wishes that his atvent may be fortunate for his country and for Europe, he will give himself the honor of inaugurating a regime which his Democratic rival prom CONCERNING SALARIES, PERQUISITES, &C.—REPORTS THAT SOME WILL NOT RESPOND TO THE
CALL OF THE COMMITTEE.

ALBANY, March 19.—The oral examination of
the officers of the life insurance companies who refused
to report the salaries and other compensation they had
received to the committee of the Legislature will be begun to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock, at No. 148 State-st.,
by the Iusurance Committee of the House, of
which Mr. J. G. Graham is chairman. It
is reported here that many of the officers of
the life insurance companies have been suddenly
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the life insurance companies have been suddenly
from the france. It says: "La France rejoices that a peaceable solution
was reached in the United States, and applies the lesson
to France. It says: "A hour wife come is one life through the asure consulting the Reported the Republic through the asure will be
easient and Representatives; that day we doubt not
there will be order at Paris as at New-York, at Versallies
as at Woshington." Le Pemps ways of Mr. Hayes: "Perlaps under his President of the Democratic party will be
also will have to nominate a successor to the present
President of the Republic through the agucey of the
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President of the Republic through the agucey of the
President of the Republic through ised." La France rejoices that a peaceable solution Debuts, M. de Moblinari, who was at the Pinitadelphia E; hibition, stys the result "was a true feat of strength, or if one wishes it, a feat of legerdemain, and from an a-point of view one cannot keep from admiring the incom-parable ability and the contempt of all vulgar scrapic with which it was accomplished." Mr. Hayes, however he calls "an honest and moderate man."

A NOVELTY IN SUICIDES.

JUMPING NINETY FEET TO A RAILROAD TRACK. The usually quiet village between Kingsbridge and Spupten Duyvil has been in the greatest comnotion and excitement since Sunday, when the body of an unknown man was found dead on the track of the Hudson River Railroad. The marks on his body plainly showed that he had not been run over by a train, and the cause of his death then became a matter of investigation and discussion. Officer Sellick of the Thirty-fifth Precinct saw the man sitting on the bridge, near where the body was found, about half an hour previous to this death. He was eating some crackers and accosted the officer as he passed, inquiring for the residences of James Gordon Bennett and Caarles O'Conor. During the day he visited several places in the neighborhood and asked for water. The last place he visited was the house of Henry Lando, where he again asked for water, and entered int a conversation about the old landmarks in the vicinity. He stated that he was born in the upper part of this State, and that he had relations living in the city, but thought he was not welcome in their house. He did not complain of being hungry and food was not offered to him, because it was thought he might be insulted, for his dress and general appearance were very respectable. He was perfectly sober and appeared rational. After taking about 15 minutes he left the house, acking which was the best way to get to New-York. After taking beat 15 minutes he left the house, acking which was the best way to get to New-York. After taking Lando's house he was seen on the edge of a high rock cetting through which the railroad tracks are laid. It is supposed that he was despondent, through want of work, and leaped from the rock. The traces of his feet showed that he stopped at several places along the edge of the cutting, as it to measure the distance with his eye, and select a most suitable place to make the leap. It was also discovered that he sat down on the edge of a little ledge of the rock, where the distance to the track is 90 feet, took off his shoes and threw them down, probably, it is stated, to see how long they would take to fall.

The body was taken to the Morgue yesterday. It is that of a man about 50 years old. He had lost one eye, had thick, black hair sprinkled with gray and a bushy, iron-gray heard. His clothing was well worn but comfortable, and consisted of a black cassiner overcoat, blue coat, black vest and trousers. On his hands were heavy buckskin mittens. his dress and general appearance were very respectable

A PEDDLER MURDERED FOR HIS WARES. Augusta, Ga., March 19.-William O'Brien vas waylaid and murdered by a negro named Edward Wells, near Buckhead, in Burke County. The near struck him on the head with an axe, killing him instantly. He then took O'Brien's goods and peddied them ly. He then took O'hien's goods had peak as a mong the negroes in the vicinity. The body was found buried in the woods. Wells was arrested on Sunday and placed in the Waynesborough Jatl. Colored citizens assisted the officers in capturing the murderer. Threats of lynching are made by both whites and blacks. O'Brien was a citizen of Augusta.

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

WASHINGTON, March 19.—The Navy Department this morning received information of the arrival of the United States steamers Richmond and Frolic of the South Atlantic Station at Montevideo on the 7th of February; all well on board. Lieut. Commonder Richard P. Leary is ordered to the Adams, at Norfolk, Va., as executive officer. Chaplain Wim. H. Stewart is ordered to the receiving ship Wabash, at Boston. Lieut. Charles H. Bockwell is detached from the Adams and granted leave of absence for one year. All the monitors at Port Royal, the Decatur excepted, have been ordered to proceed to Savannah. The object of this is to, clear their body to the state of the save of the common of baruacles which have accumulated during the last two years. It is thought that if the vesseis are allowed to remain in fresh water for two or three months this can be done. They will leave two at a time, convoyed by the United States tug seawed.

PRICE FOUR CENTS.

THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

RAPID PROGRESS OF EVENTS.

THE SULTAN PRESENT AT THE OPENING OF PARLIA-MENT-THE TURKS DEFEATED IN BOSNIA-LARGE ARMIES ON THE ASIATIC FRONTIER-A REVOLT FEARED AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Monday, March 19, 1877. The Turkish Parliament met to-day and was pened by the Suitan in person. The Ministers, the chief civil, military, and religious diguitaries, and the foreign charges d'affaires, except those of Germany and Russia, who were represented by dragomans, were present. The First Secretary of the Sultan read the speech from the throne. A considerable number of Senators and Deputies were in attendance. The Deputies will take their seats to-morrow. Of the 30 Senators there are 5 who are not Mussulmans.

LONDON. Monday, March 19, 1877. In the House of Lords this afternoon Lord Derby, in reply to a question by Earl Granville, said before coming into the house he was visited by Count Schouvaloff, the Russian Embassador, who brought proposals of various alterations of the protocol, which he (Lord Derby) was not prepared to give an opinion about, as they had not yet been seen by his colleagues.

A Reuter telegram, dated Teheran, March 18, says: Advices from Erzeroum to the 6th inst. show that the authorities there were displaying much activity in preparations for the contingency of war between Russia and and Turkey. There was an incessant movement of troops toward the Russian frontier. The reserves of the Fourth Army Corps had been called out for service. The regulars numbered 50,000, exclusive of 12,000 stationed at Ardahan, a few miles north of Kars, was held by 60,000 troops. Turkish forces were concentrating to resist any Russian advance on Erivan. The second line of defense at Sagnanice was strongly fortified. The number of Russian troops on the frontier was estimated at 110,000. Reënforcements arrive daily for the Turkish forces from

A Reuter telegram from Zaza says a six hours' obstinate fight took place between the Turks and Bosnians on Saturday, between Bonaventura and Drezzula. Both sides suffered heavily. The Turks retired into Livno.

A special disputch from Berlin to The Times says the Russians appear to regard the protocol as a valuable the highest satisfaction at the Anglo-Russian settlement A special dispatch from St. Petersburg to The Daily News quotes The Golos as declaring that peace may now be considered certain, as England has apparently decided to sign a protocol containing the principle of coercion. The correspondent says the object of course is to make the people believe Russia has gained a diplomatic victory. and adds :

and adds:

Certainly the ancreby now existing in Tarker will soon force England to change her policy. Russia only has to wait, and the impossibility of ab-taining from intervention in Turkey will soon be manifest even to Lords Each considerand Derby. Unless the Powers can bring the Porte to its senses all the diplomatic fletions in the world will not nexpert was Porte to its senses all will not prevent war.

The Manchester Guardian has a special dispatch from Constantinople, dated March 17, which contains the fol lowing:

Popular feeling against Mahmoud Damad is gaining ground. Thirty Softas were arrested on Tuesday. The Minister of Police has been dismissed because he was insufficiently watchful. A large body of Softas went to the Palace on Wednesday to demand the release of the comrades. Threatening revolutionary placards are increasing, and the people within the Palace are becoming anxious.

A special dispatch from Beigrade to The Times says:

A special dispatch from Beigrade to The Times says:
Orders have been given to prepare provisions for 1,000
horses at Scrajevo which are coming, with anomation.
The Bosnians assert that the Austrians have 160 cannon
at Brod, and have prepared pontoons for crossing the
Save." The official journal at Scrajevo' reports further
conflicts with insurgents in the Kocara Mountains, and
that considerable activity is observable on the part of
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that the considerable activity is observed to the Considerable
of the province by foreign troops, which would terminate
a state of unbearable anarcay.

Mr. Arthur J. Evans, a well-known newspaper correspondent, who visited the insurgent districts last year,

spondent, who visited the insurgent districts last year, writes to The Times from Ragusa that he has just visited the Bosaian insurgents. He states that they number 2.500 well-armed men, and hold excellent positious. There is no brigandage, but war a'outrance. The insurrents are native Bosnians. There are no foreign emissaries among them. The reign of terror continues in the ountry districts of Bosnia and Old Servia. MORE MUSSULMAN OUTRAGES.

The Times publishes a letter from its Pera correspond-

ent, which contains the following:

Dark tales of Mussulman violence and rapine continue
to reach us from many provinces, especially Bulgaria,
Macedonia, and Albania, where public security, either on
the highway or in isolated houses or small hamlets,
seems allogether at an end. Those who are willing to seems allogether at an end. Inose who are whind give Turkey one or three years to mature reforms may see what elements are at work for future improvement cither in the Government or among the people. Not one Zaptich has been dismissed the service; no tithegather has been stopped in his career of unlawful exaction, and no step is made toward the establishment of public security or the administration of taxes and equal

COL. BAKER'S MILITARY SCHEME.

COL. BAKER'S MILITARY SCHEME.

The Standard's Constantinople letter says:

The scheme submitted by Coi. Valentine Baker for the formation of 60,000 gendarmer e is a good one if he be permitted to carry it out, but I have little hope that the men in power will give him the requisite support. The political situation is unimproved. The Government is quite powerless to aliay popular excitement against Montenegro and Russia. In the interior of the empire the Government is so lamentably weak that it cannot repress the evil or protect the good. Though Gen. Ignateff is no longer here his policy is being carried out by his agen's precisely as if he were here to direct them.

The Pall Mail Gazette's Constantinople letter say:

The statements about the Sultan's health are fabrica-

The Pall Mail Gazette's Constantinople letter say:

The statements about the Suitan's health are fabrications. He is in good health, leads a quiet orderly life, takes great interest in public affairs, and does what he can to improve the condition of the country. Mahmoud Damad is the present danger at the Palace, and Abraham Pasha is here to help him and to carry on his old schemes for Egypt and Russia. But there is a strong party against Abraham Pasha, which will also endeavor to restrain Mahmoud Damad's influence, and may possibly overthrow it altogether.

THE LOUISIANA CONFLICT.

LEGAL STEPS FOR THE DISPOSSESSION OF THR PACKARD GOVERNMENT.

NEW-ORLEANS, March 19 .- Attorney-General Ogden has filed in the Fifth District Court a petition for a writ of ejectment against S. B. Packard, claiming to be Governor, G. B. Johnson, claiming to be Superintendent of Education, and others residing in the St. Louis Hotel building known as the State House. The petition sets forth that these persons are unlawfully in possession o said building, and, in the name of the State, asks that the said billding, and, in the name of the State, assist that the present occupants be dispossessed therefrom and the rightful claimants—the officers of the Nicholls Govern-ment—be given possession. The court has not yet been called upon to take action in the premises, but it is likely such action will be invoked very soon.

GOV. HUBBARD'S VETOES.

HARTFORD, Conn., March 19 .- Gov. Hubbard to-day vetoed the bill giving members of the Legislature a mileage of 25 cents each way on the ground that it is in violation of the constitutional provision against the Legislature mercasing its own pay. He also vetoed the new registry law, on the ground that the require-ment that an elector shall be made an elector anew when he removes to another town is an unconstitutional inter-terence with the franchise.

THE ICE IN THE HUDSON.

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., March 19. - Dispatches from the upper Hudson say that the ice is firm from Stockport northward. At Coxsackie people are crossing the river on foot. There is a beavy lee gorge between Catskill and Hudson, and at all points south of Rhinebeck large fields of new ice have formed. The thermometer was ten degrees above zero here this

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

TORONTO, March 19.—A special telegram from London to The Globe says: "Mr. Hickson, General Manager of the Grand Trunk Railway, sailed for America in the Balavia on Saturday."

on Saturday.

PHILADELPHIA, March 19.—Samuel Carey Ball, late cashier of the Hatbero (Penn.) National Back, has been convicted of the embezziement of the funds of that institution and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment.

BOSTON, March 19,—The suit brought by the Government against Jordan, Marsh & Co., for the afleged under-variation of goods has been settled by agreement. Judgment has been cutered for plaintiff in the sum of \$30,000 and costs, the latter being taxed at \$230.66.

BALTIMORE, Md., March 19.—Engine No. 431, one of the powerful mogals used on the Baltimore and Ohio Ratiroad, exploded at Keyser, West Virginia, Saturday, impantly killing Austin Speece, the fireman, and seriously scaling disorge Ward, the engineer.